

# DOCUALERT

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## RESEARCH UNIT - PUBLIC DIPLOMACY SECTION

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*DOCUALERT is a monthly information service highlighting documents from government agencies and think tanks and articles from leading U.S. journals. The materials cover international relations, U.S. foreign and domestic policies and trends.*

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

### REPORTS

#### [Address by President Obama to the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly](#)

The United Nations, New York. September 20, 2016.

“A quarter century after the end of the Cold War, the world is by many measures less violent and more prosperous than ever before, and yet our societies are filled with uncertainty, and unease, and strife. Despite enormous progress, as people lose trust in institutions, governing becomes more difficult and tensions between nations become more quick to surface.”

#### [Remarks on the Transatlantic Relationship](#)

Remarks by John Kerry, U.S. Secretary of State, German Marshall fund of the U.S. Brussels, Belgium. October 4, 2016.

“The United States of America will support its friends and its allies on both sides of the channel as you work through the tough issues ahead, but we will not be shy about where our interests lie. We need the strongest possible EU, the strongest possible UK, and a highly integrated, collaborative relationship between them.”

#### [International Religious Freedom Report for 2015](#)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, U.S. Department of State. August 2016.

Report on [Spain](#) and [Andorra](#)

“The Department of State submits this report to the Congress in compliance with section 102(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA) of 1998. U.S. embassies prepare the initial drafts of the reports based on information from government officials, religious leaders, nongovernmental organizations, journalists, human rights monitors, religious groups, academics, and others.”

#### [Implications for US National Security of Anticipated Climate Change](#)

National Intelligence Council. September 21, 2016 [PDF format, 13 pages]

“The report found that climate-related national security disruptions are underway now and climate change and its resulting effects are likely to pose wide-ranging national security challenges for the United States and other countries over the next 20 years through a number of pathways.”

### [The Value of U.S. Alliances](#)

Antony Blinken, Deputy U.S. Secretary of State at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, DC, June 29, 2016.

“We will continue to work together—shoulder-to-shoulder with allies, partners, and friends—to adapt our international order to better reflect the new realities that its founders could not have imagined more than seventy years ago. We will continue to strengthen our alliances, work with like-minded emerging powers, and impose costs on those who seek to assert their will by force.”

### [9/11+15 Conference: A Strategic Review of the Fight Against Terrorism](#)

Remarks by Sarah Sewall, Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights at the National Defense University, Fort McNair, Washington, DC. September 8, 2016.

“In February 2015 at the White House Summit on Countering Violent Extremism, President Obama kicked off a global conversation about the role of governance and human rights in fueling terrorist threats. The White House Summit launched a series of regional conversations that included civil society, sometimes for the first time ever in dialogue with government, about the role of political alienation, protection of human rights, and economic marginalization in reinforcing the appeal of terrorist propaganda.”

### [America’s role in a turbulent world](#)

Bruce Jones. The Brookings Institution. September 28, 2016.

This brief is part of [Election 2016 and America’s Future](#)—an institution-wide initiative in which Brookings scholars have identified the biggest issues facing the country this election season and are providing individual ideas for how to address them. *Bruce Jones is vice president and director of the Foreign Policy program at Brookings and a senior fellow in the Institution's Project on International Order and Strategy at the same institution.*

### [U.S. Leadership and the Challenge of State Fragility](#)

*Ambassador William J. Burns; Michèle Flournoy; Nancy Lindborg.* Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; Center for a New American Security (CNAS); the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) . September 12, 2016 [PDF format, 36 pages]

“Fragile states may seem like a distant and abstract concern. They are not. They are at the center of much of today’s regional disorder and global upheaval”. This report is the culmination of the work of the Fragility Study Group, a joint project of the Carnegie, the CNAS and the USIP. *Ambassador William J. Burns is President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Michèle Flournoy is Co-Founder*

and CEO of the Center for a New American Security. Nancy Lindborg is President of the United States Institute of Peace (USIP).

#### [How to Build a More Flexible EU After Brexit](#)

Heather Grabbe. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. September 8, 2016.

“Crafting a transatlantic approach in response to Russia’s aggressive behavior over the last two years hasn’t been easy. European countries continue to differ on the degree to which the West should pursue punitive measures.” *Julianne Smith is senior fellow and director of the Strategy and Statecraft Program at the Center for a New American Security. Heather Grabbe is the director of the Open Society European Policy Institute.*

#### [After Liberation: Assessing Stabilization Efforts in Areas of Iraq Cleared of the Islamic State](#)

Hardin Lang; Muath Al Wari. Center for American Progress. July 26, 2016 [PDF format, 32 pages]

“This report—part of an ongoing series on the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL— examines stabilization efforts in Iraq. It uses lessons learned by the United States and the United Kingdom to provide a framework for understanding stabilization and explores how the coalition and its partners have organized themselves to affect it.” *Hardin Lang is a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress. Muath Al Wari is a Senior Policy Analyst at the Center.*

#### [The Outlook for Arab Gulf Cooperation](#)

Jeffrey Martini, et. al. The Rand Corporation. August 2016. [PDF format, 101 pages]

“This report examines factors that bind and divide the six GCC states — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates — and presents the outlook for the GCC's evolution over the next ten years.” *Jeffrey Martini is a senior Middle East analyst at the RAND Corporation, where he works on political and security issues in the Arab World.*

#### [The Consolidation of Power in Ukraine: What It Means for the West](#)

Mikhail Minakov. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. September 19, 2016.

“This publication is from the [Task Force on U.S. Policy Toward Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia](#) project.” *Mikhail Minakov is an associate professor, political analyst, and consultant. He also contributes to the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace’s Ukraine Reform Monitor.*

#### [U.S. International Economic Strategy in a Turbulent World](#)

Howard J. Shatz. Rand Corporation. June 2016 [PDF format, 174 pages]

“The upcoming U.S. presidential election presents an opportunity to confirm, better define, or redefine America's role in the world. Economic power and policy will have an important place in any conception of the United States' role in the world. This report presents the strategic choices America faces regarding the international economy over the terms of the current and next U.S. administrations.” *Howard J. Shatz is a senior economist at the RAND Corporation, director of RAND-Initiated Research.*

## ARTICLES

### [Building on Success: Opportunities for the Next Administration](#)

Joseph R. Biden, Jr. Foreign Affairs. *Foreign Affairs*. September / October 2016.

“Our administration has been guided by the belief that the foundations of U.S. global leadership reside first and foremost in our dynamic economy, peerless military, and universal values. We have built on these core strengths by expanding and modernizing the United States’ unrivaled network of alliances and partnerships and embedding them within a wider international order of rules and institutions.”

*Joseph R. Biden, Jr. is Vice President of the United States.*

### [Explaining President Obama’s Rebalance Strategy](#)

Ambassador Susan Rice. Medium. September 5, 2016.

“So why is the Asia Pacific so important? And what does the Asia Rebalance mean exactly? Here’s a rundown of what you need to know about the President’s regional strategy.” *Ambassador Susan Rice, U.S. National Security Advisor.*

### [A Defense of Obama’s Middle East ‘Balancing Act’](#)

Aaron David Miller. *Foreign Policy*. August 15, 2016.

“From the Iraq drawdown to chemical weapons red lines to Russia’s war in Syria, a conversation with Robert Malley, the president’s top Middle East policy official... After working on the NSC under Bill Clinton’s administration — primarily on Arab-Israeli issues — in the late 1990s, Malley is back with a portfolio that covers the region as a whole, focusing especially on the Islamic State, Syria, and the Gulf. ”

*Aaron David Miller is vice president for new initiatives and a distinguished scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.*

### [The Atlantic Pivot](#)

Simon Sefarty. *The National Interest*. August 14, 2016.

“The U.S. and Europe have a blind date with history. By 2020, decisions made about the alliance of purpose and the union of necessity built during the Cold War will leave each either more united and stronger, or more divided and weaker. In June 2016, a referendum in Britain changed the terms of its relations with the European Union, but it may also have reactivated its indispensability to its member states, and even strengthened the role of NATO as a unifying factor with the United States.” *Simon Serfaty is a professor of U.S. foreign policy and eminent scholar at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.*

### [Sustaining Britain's Role in NATO after Brexit](#)

F. Stephen Larrabee; Peter A. Wilson. *The National Interest*. August 3, 2016.

“Britain is entering a period of increased uncertainty and political change which could have far reaching implications for its relations with Europe and ultimately the Atlantic Alliance.” *F. Stephen Larrabee holds the Distinguished Chair Emeritus in European Security at the RAND Corporation. Peter A. Wilson is an adjunct senior defense analyst at RAND and professor at the Security Studies Program, Georgetown University.*

### Europe's Fall Agenda

Judy Dempsey. *Strategic Europe*. August 5, 2016.

"Two big issues will dominate the European Union's agenda when the summer vacation winds down and civil servants return to deal with the crucial dossiers that will shape the future of Europe and the transatlantic relationship." *Judy Dempsey is a nonresident senior associate at Carnegie Europe and editor in chief of Strategic Europe.*

### Three principles for global support to refugee education

Sarah Dryden-Peterson. *Education Plus Development* blog. September 21, 2016.

"Refugee children are five times more likely than their national peers to be out of school. Almost 4 million refugees globally do not have access to school, among them nearly 900,000 Syrian children and young people." *Sarah Dryden-Peterson is a Nonresident Fellow at the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution. She is also an Associate Professor of Education at Harvard Graduate School of Education.*

### The Grinding Fight to Root Out ISIS in a Battered Libya

Frederic Wehrey. *The New Yorker*. August 10, 2016.

"The Islamic State in Libya began to arrive in Sirte in late 2014, drawing partial support from tribes and communities... Most of its real muscle, though, came from abroad: Iraqi, Yemeni, Syrian, and Saudi advisers; foot soldiers from Tunisia, Egypt, Algeria, Sudan, and the Sahelian states to the south of Libya." *Frederic Wehrey is a senior associate in the Middle East Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.*

### Yemen: an Opportunity for Iran–Saudi Dialogue?

Dina Esfandiary; Ariane M. Tabatabai. *The Washington Quarterly*. Summer 2016.

"To begin to work to stabilize a region on the verge of collapse, Iran and Saudi Arabia need to find common ground: Yemen is the area of overlap. It is a high priority for Riyadh and low for Tehran, which can and is willing to compromise." *Dina Esfandiary is a MacArthur Fellow at the Centre for Science and Security Studies in the War Studies department at King's College London. Ariane M. Tabatabai is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Security Studies at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service.*

### NATO in Context: Geopolitics and the Problem of Russian Power

Richard E. Hunter. *Prism*. July 12, 2016.

"Attitudes in the West will be critical and must include self-confidence and a willingness to engage Russia where that can be both advantageous to the West and also mutually attractive and beneficial." *Robert Hunter is a Senior Fellow at the Center for Transatlantic Relations, John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. He served as the U.S. Ambassador to NATO from 1993 to 1998.*

### **Demographic Changes and U.S. Foreign Policy**

Amit Gupta. *Orbis*. Summer 2016.

“The demographic shift in America may well strengthen U.S. foreign policy, as well as military capability and economic competitiveness.” *Amit Gupta is an Associate Professor in the Department of International Security Studies at the USAF Air War College, Montgomery, Alabama.*

### **Just Security and the Crisis of Global Governance**

William Durch, et. al. *Survival*. August/September 2016.

“Pursuing security and justice jointly in global governance will be vital to human progress in the twenty-first century. Humanity lives and operates simultaneously in three spaces critical to contemporary life and governance: public, transactional and ecological.” *William Durch is a Distinguished Fellow at the Stimson Center in Washington DC and served as Research Director for the Commission on Global Security, Justice and Governance.*

### **Unwanted Migration: How Governments Cope?**

Joseph Chamie; Barry Mirkin. *YaleGlobal*. August 4, 2016.

According to the authors, uncontrolled migration, spurred by a growing populations, fewer resources like water or arable land as well as increasing conflict, has become a contentious political issue, particularly in advanced economies like Europe and the United States. *Joseph Chamie is a former director of the United Nations Population Division and Barry Mirkin is a former chief of the Population Policy Section of the United Nations Population Division.*

## **U.S. DOMESTIC POLICIES AND TRENDS**

### **REPORTS**

#### **FACT SHEET: Announcing Over \$80 million in New Federal Investment and a Doubling of Participating Communities in the White House Smart Cities Initiative**

The White House. September 26, 2016.

“Today, to kick off Smart Cities Week, the Administration is expanding this initiative, with over \$80 million in new Federal investments and a doubling of the number of participating cities and communities, exceeding 70 in total. These new investments and collaborations will help cities of all sizes, including in the following key areas: climate, transportation, public safety and transform city services.”

#### **Small Business: Access to Capital and Job Creation**

Robert Jay Dilger. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. August 26, 2016.

“It discusses the role of small business in job creation and retention, then provides an assessment of the supply and demand for small business loans and recently enacted laws designed to enhance small business access to capital.” *Robert Jay Dilger is a Senior Specialist in American National Government.*

#### **Fact Sheet: Fiscal Year 2016 Refugee Admissions**

Office of the Spokesperson, Department of State. October 4, 2016.

“For each of the past several years the United States has offered 70,000 refugees new homes. In Fiscal Year 2016, President Obama set a new, more ambitious goal: resettling 85,000 refugees. Per the President’s goal, the American communities welcomed 84,995 refugees in Fiscal Year 2016.

### [Refugee Integration in the United States](#)

David Dyssegaard Kallick, Silva Mathema. Center for American Progress. June 2016 [PDF format, 56 pages]

“Around 3 million refugees have been admitted to the United States. This report focuses on four groups: Somali, Burmese, Hmong, and Bosnian refugees... The groups examined here, however, show that there are some broad trends among them, as well as some distinctions.” *David Dyssegaard Kallick is a senior fellow at the Fiscal Policy Institute. Silva Mathema is a Senior Policy Analyst on the Immigration Policy team at the Center for American Progress.*

### [Building Livelihood Opportunities for Refugee Populations: Lessons from Past Practice](#)

Karen Jacobsen; Susan Fratzke. Migration Policy Institute (MPI). September 2016. [PDF format, 43 pages]

This report outlines the types of livelihood efforts that aid agencies have undertaken in countries of first asylum and explores the challenges they face in realizing the full promise of these approaches. The authors offer a range of recommendations to improve effectiveness. *Karen Jacobsen is the Henry J. Leir Professor of Global Migration at the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University. Susan Fratzke is a Policy Analyst and Program Coordinator at MPI.*

### [Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs](#)

U.S. Census Bureau. September 1, 2016.

“Nearly 1 in 10 Businesses With Employees Are New, according to findings from the U.S. Census Bureau's... The Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs provides a timely, more frequent socio-economic portrait of the nation's employer businesses by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status.”

### [America's advanced industries: New trends](#)

Mark Muro. The Brookings Institution. August 4, 2016.

“This report provides an update on the changing momentum and geography of America’s advanced industries sector—a group of 50 R&D- and STEM (science-technology-engineering-mathematics)-worker intensive industries the vitality of which will be essential for supporting any broadly shared prosperity in U.S. regions.” *Mark Muro, a senior fellow and the director of policy at the Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings, leads the program's advanced and inclusive economy activities.*

### [High hopes and harsh realities: The real challenges to building a diverse teacher workforce](#)

Hannah Putman, et.al. The Brookings Institution. August 2016 [PDF format, 22 pages]

“The report presented here is the outcome of a joint effort by scholars and analysts from the National Council on Teacher Quality and the Brookings Institution to understand how much change is necessary to achieve a teacher workforce as racially diverse as the student population it serves.” *Hannah Putman is the director of research at the National Council on Teacher Quality.*

### [In Their Own Words: Why Voters Support – and Have Concerns About – Clinton and Trump](#)

Pew Research Center. September 21, 2016.

The survey conducted August 16-September 12 online and by mail among 4,538 adults, including 3,941 registered voters, provides a unique perspective on voters' feelings about the presidential candidates.

### [The Racial Confidence Gap in Police Performance](#)

Rich Morin. Pew Research Center. September 29, 2016.

The deep racial tensions seen in many areas of American life underlie how blacks and whites view police in their communities, as well as their reactions to the deadly encounters in recent years between blacks and law enforcement officers, according to a new survey by Pew Research Center. *Rich Morin is a senior editor at Pew Research Center.*

### [A Smart Tax: Pricing Oil for a Safe Climate](#)

Deborah Gordon. Jessica Tuchman Mathews. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. June 2016.

"The massive shifts that must take place to meet the Paris pledges and eventually to decarbonize the U.S. economy simply cannot happen without the guiding signal of prices that reflect the true costs of hydrocarbon combustion." *Deborah Gordon is the director of the Energy and Climate Program and a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Jessica Tuchman Mathews is a distinguished fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. She served as Carnegie's president for 18 years.*

## ARTICLES

### [Five Days That Shaped a Presidency](#)

Jonathan Chait. *New York Magazine*. October 2, 2016.

"On August 25, after a short trip to Baton Rouge to assess flooding in Louisiana and before what will likely be his last visit to China on Air Force One, Barack Obama sat down at the White House to reflect on the past eight years... Before his conversation with Jonathan Chait, he chose five moments that, he believes, will have outsized historical impact. Here is their conversation in full." *Jonathan Chait is a writer for New York magazine.*

### [A Challenge For Obama's Successor: Being a Casual, Cool President](#)

Julia Azari. *Politico Magazine*. September 28, 2016.

"Barack Obama set new expectations for how a president communicates with Americans... As Obama's presidency winds down, there are going to be a lot of appreciations of what he meant, on policy issues from race to the environment to terrorism. But there's no question he's also reshaped expectations of how presidents talk to America." *Julia Azari is an associate professor of political science at Marquette University. She is a regular contributor to the political science blog The Mischief of Faction.*

### [How demographic changes are transforming U.S. elections](#)

John Hudak. *FixGov* blog. September 13, 2016.



“Over the past several election cycles, minority voters have played an increasingly important role in determining who is elected president. That trend is likely to continue as turnout rates among minority demographic groups increases and political strategists note the importance of tailoring messages to such groups to gain an electoral advantage.” *John Hudak is deputy director of the Center for Effective Public Management and a senior fellow in Governance Studies at the Brookings Institution.*

### [50 Battleground Counties to Watch in 2016 Presidential Race](#)

Louis Jacobson. *Governing*. September 21, 2016.

“The outcome of the presidential election is determined by the Electoral College. But in many cases, it comes down to the ballots cast in just a handful of the country's more than 3,000 counties. We've put together a cheat sheet listing the counties to watch in this year's key battleground states.” *Louis Jacobson is the senior correspondent at PolitiFact, the fact-checking website that is part of the Tampa Bay Times of Florida and a contributor to Governing magazine.*

### [2016 State Ballot Measures Coverage](#)

*Governing*. September 28, 2016.

“Everything you need to know about the most important issues voters will decide in November.”

### [Education's Key Place in Down-Ballot Elections](#)

Erik Robelen. *The Atlantic*. October 1, 2016.

“In Massachusetts, a fierce campaign is being waged over whether to lift the state cap on opening more public charter schools, with millions being spent on dueling TV advertisements. Education is proving a key issue in governors' contests in Indiana, Montana, and North Carolina, to name a few. Plus, state superintendents are on the November ballot in five states, including Indiana and Montana.” *Erik Robelen is the deputy director of the Education Writers Association and a former reporter and editor at Education Week.*

### [Export Monitor 2016: Large metro areas expand exports amid national decline](#)

Joseph Parilla, et.al. *The Avenue blog*. September 8, 2016.

“In the 100 largest metro areas, which account for 69 percent of national exports, real exports actually increased in 2015 by \$158 million to \$1.343 trillion... The strongest sectors in large metros this past year were travel and tourism (gaining \$9.4 billion), education and medical services (\$5.0 billion), management and legal (\$3.5 billion), oil and gas extraction (\$3.0 billion), and the tech sector (\$1.9 billion).” *Joseph Parilla is a Fellow at Brookings' Metropolitan Policy Program.*

### [Tackling the health IT challenge: A Nashville case study](#)

Scott Andes. *The Avenue blog*. August 25, 2016.

“The opportunity for Nashville revolves around multiple areas of competitive advantage: large and stable health care companies; a young but growing software sector, and; a high concentration of health-related research at Vanderbilt University. All position the region to emerge as a center for innovation in health IT.” *Scott Andes is a senior policy analyst and associate fellow with the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Initiative on Innovation and Placemaking.*

### [How to Fix America's Infrastructure](#)

Aaron Kein. *Foreign Affairs*. September/October, 2016.

“The problems that plague American infrastructure are deep-seated and complex. Yet there is a way out. Washington and the public must recognize that world-class infrastructure does not come cheap. High-quality infrastructure is vital to global economic competitiveness.” *Aaron Klein is a Fellow in Economic Studies and Policy Director of the Initiative on Business and Public Policy at the Brookings Institution.*

### [The New High-School Outsiders](#)

Angie Smith, et. al. *New York Times Magazine*. September 9, 2016.

“In Boise, Idaho, about 1,300 of the city’s 26,000 students last year were refugees, roughly a third of them in high school. The United States expects to resettle 85,000 refugees in 190 cities and towns nationwide this year.” *Angie Smith is a photographer based in Los Angeles and has taught photography workshops in Ecuador, Italy, Spain, London and Paris.*

### [A Blueprint for Keeping Homeless Kids in School](#)

Eillie Anzilotti. *CityLab*. September 29, 2016

“Across the country, states and districts are hatching new ways to implement federal provisions coming into effect this fall... The number of homeless students has doubled to 1.3 million over the past decade, according to the Civic Enterprises report.” *Eillie Anzilotti is an editorial fellow at CityLab.*

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